## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT **SUBJECT** 16 September 1955 Konev Foundry of the United Steel DATE DRETE: 25X1 Works in Kladno NO. OF PAGES DATE OF INFO. RD REQUIREMENT NO. 25X1 REFERENCES PLACE ACQUIRED This is UNEVALUATED Information DATE ACQUIRED SOLIDCE EVALUATIONS ARE DESINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

- 1. The Konev Foundry of the United Steel Works (SONE) at Kladno produces low grade steel, both rolled and semisteel. A fair quantity of plates are manufactured, but the largest single item produced is rails. Thomas steel is used. The production of the Foundry is supplemented by that of a small plant at Most.
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- 2. It is not known how many blast furnaces there are at the Konev Foundry. All of them are of pre-war construction with the exception of one new one which was erected a few years ago. There are two blooming mills and a number of rolling mills. All of these are believed to be of pre-war construction. The mills are capable of fair convertibility.
- 3. At least 10,000 to 13,000 workers are employed. Three full shifts are being worked. The total output of the Foundry per year is not known but it is confidently estimated that it cannot be less than 100,000 tons and is possibly in the region of 150,000 tons or even more. The works are already at full capacity in view of the old state of the plant. It is thought likely that the plant will be modernized and possibly the works expanded, since the Czechoslovak engineering industry depends a good deal on its output.
- 4. So far as is known the entire output of these works is for domestic consumption.
- 5. The workers at the Konev Foundry are largely unskilled. There are many so-called volunteers and prisoners. Working conditions are also very bad, and this Foundry has more accidents, many of them fatal, than any other Foundry in the country.
- 6. The source of power is thermoelectric.

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